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Docket:

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe that the inventors named below are the original and sole inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

"Computerized Method And Apparatus For Issuing Surety Bonds"

the specification of which (check one)

☐ is attached hereto.

☐ was filed on October 23, 2000 as Application Serial No. 09/694,776.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information which is material to the examination of this application in accordance with Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56(a).

And I hereby appoint: Thomas A. O'Rourke, Reg. No. 27,665 of Wyatt, Gerber, Meller & O'Rourke, L.L.P., 99 Park Avenue; New York, New York 10016; Tel.: (212) 681-0800, my attorneys, each with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Address all correspondence and all telephone calls to Thomas A. O'Rourke, Wyatt, Gerber, Meller & O'Rourke, L.L.P. at (212) 681-0800.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or



imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

**Full name of sole or first inventor:**

Joseph Sforzo

**Full name of second inventor, if any:**

\_\_\_\_\_

**Inventor's signature:**

Joseph Sforzo

Date: 1/11/00

**Inventor's signature:**

\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Citizenship: United States  
Residence:

Citizenship: \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence:

522 Broadway  
Massapequa, New York 11758

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Post Office Address:**

Same as above

**Post Office Address:**

\_\_\_\_\_



**PATENT**

**Attorney's Docket No.** \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant or Patentee:** \_\_\_\_\_ Joseph Sforzo \_\_\_\_\_

**Serial or Patent No.:** \_\_\_\_\_ 09/694,776 \_\_\_\_\_

**Filed or Issued:** \_\_\_\_\_ October 23, 2000 \_\_\_\_\_

**For:** COMPUTERIZED METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ISSUING SURETY BONDS

**VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY  
STATUS**

I hereby declare upon information and belief that the above named inventor qualifies as an independent inventor as defined in 37 CFR 1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled COMPUTERIZED METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ISSUING SURETY BONDS.

\_\_\_\_\_ the specification filed herewith.

☒ application serial no. 09/694,776, filed October 23, 2000.

\_\_\_\_\_ patent no. \_\_\_\_\_, issued \_\_\_\_\_.

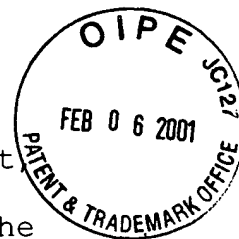
He has not assigned, granted, conveyed or licensed and is under no obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey or license, any rights in the invention to any person who could not be classified as an independent inventor under 37 CFR 1.9(c) if that person had made the invention, or to any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e).

Each person, concern or organization to which he has assigned, granted, conveyed, or licensed or am under an obligation under contract or law to assign, grant, convey, or license any rights in the invention is listed below:

☒ no such person, concern or organization

☐ person, concerns or organizations listed below.\*

\*Note: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27).



I acknowledge the duty to file, in the application or patent notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b)).

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief to be true; and further that these statements were made with knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

  
Joseph Sforzo